Upgradation of Jaguar Fighters and Trainers

1495. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the present status with regard to upgradation of deep penetration Jaguar Fighters and Jaguar Trainers indigenously by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bangalore;

(b) the details of present status with regard to upgradation of Jaguar prototype with the navigation and weapon attack sub-system, indigenously by HAL and Defence Avionics Research Establishment;

(c) whether the Government has released sufficient funds for these projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE): (a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited has entered into a contract with Indian Air Force for undertaking series upgradation of Jaguar Aircrafts.

(b) Two prototypes have been upgraded and flown successfully Limited initial operation clearance for the aircraft has been achieved

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Payments are released as per the terms of the contract.

(e) Does not arise.

Shortage of bullet proof jackets

†1496. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Army is facing acute shortage of bullet proof jackets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the number of bullet proof jackets required by the Army along with the number of such jackets available with them at present; and

(d) the number of such jackets made available to the Army during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Based on the immediate requirement as projected by Army, 1 lac bullet proof jackets are under procurement 1.26 lac bullet proof jackets are available with Army at present. 28,500 bullet proof jackets have been made available to the Army in the last three years. Another contract for 26,774 bullet proof jackets has been singed in April, 2004.

Infiltration from Bangladesh

1497. SHRI SURENDRA LATH.
SHRI BALAWANT *alias* BALAPTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the problem of infiltration from across the Border, specially Bangladesh, is making the women near the border areas vulnerable;

(b) if so, what action is being taken to prevent infiltration; and

(c) the action taken to prevent human trafficking across the National Borders with Nepal and Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Illegal infiltration from across the Bangladesh border has been a great source of concern to every section of Indian Society, particularly to women and children. This issue was discussed during the DG level talks between BSF abd BDR held on 28th April-3rd May, 2004. BSF soldiers are actively vigilant to prevent the trafficking women and children. DG, BSF deeply shared his concern with DG, BDR, for this crime against humanity. He informed DG, BDR that BSF was actively involved in combating illegal trafficking of women and children with other Government and Non-Government agencies of India. To prevent infiltration and women trafficking across the Bangladesh border, the BSF